



National Park Service
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Study Shows the Economic Benefits of Visitor Spending at George Washington Carver National Monument

Diamond, Missouri: A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that more than 35,000 visitors in 2010 spent \$574 thousand in George Washington Carver NM and in communities near the park. That spending supported more than 9 jobs in the area.

“The people and the business owners in communities near national parks have always known their value,” said park superintendent Jim Heaney. “In addition to being a place where people of all ages and backgrounds can connect to the life of an extraordinary man, George Washington Carver NM also provides an economic benefit to the community.”

Most of the spending/jobs are related to lodging, food, and beverage service (52 percent) followed by other retail (29 percent), entertainment/amusements (10 percent), gas and local transportation (7 percent) and groceries (2 percent).

The figures are based on \$12 billion of direct spending by 281 million visitors in 394 national parks and nearby communities and are included in an annual, peer-reviewed, visitor spending analysis conducted by Dr. Daniel Stynes of Michigan State University for the National Park Service.

Across the U.S., local visitor spending added a total of \$31 billion to the national economy and supported more than 258,000 jobs, an increase of \$689 million and 11,500 jobs over 2009.

To download the report visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/products.cfm#MGM> and click on *Economic Benefits to Local Communities from National Park Visitation and Payroll, 2010*. The report includes information for visitor spending at individual parks and by state.

For more on how the NPS is working within Missouri, go to www.nps.gov/missouri

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